Water Quality

2012 Report
published June 2013

WATER QUALITY

We are proud to report that Sumner's water is clean and safe. Our water is in full compliance with the standards of both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Dept of Health.

WHERE OUR WATER BEGINS

Your primary water supply comes from springs on the east hill. There are three spring fields: Sumner Springs, Crystal/ County Springs and Elhi Springs. To meet peak demand in the summer, the City also uses three wells: West Well, South Well and Dieringer Well.

SAMPLING RESULTS

The table shows water quality information from the most recent round of testing done in accordance with the regulations. Washington State Department of Health has reduced the monitoring requirements for the City of Sumner for organics and inorganics because our source is not at risk of contamination.

ORGANIC CHEMICALS

We test for organic chemicals to ensure our water meets stringent water quality standards. In 2012, a test on South Well showed non-detect for Volatile Organic Chemicals and tests on Sumner Springs, Elhi Springs and South Well showed non-detect for herbicide or pesticide *For a full copy of the report, call 253-299-5740.*

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

In addition, we follow the EPA's regulations for monitoring unregulated contaminants. This helps the EPA Administrator decide whether or not to regulate these contaminants in the future.

WATER USE EFFICIENCY PERFORMANCE

Total water produced - 525,859,000 gallons
Authorized Consumption – 471,731,451 gallons
Distribution System Leakage – 54,127,549 gallons, or 10.3% of total water produced

ABOUT LEAD

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Sumner is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

CHLORINE

Sumner takes chlorine residual samples every business day from County and Sumner Springs in order to measure proper dosage rates. Every month, we take ten water samples from various points in our water system. We send these to an independently certified lab to test for bacteria.

CONTACT US & GET INVOLVED

To report a problem

Public Works Dept., 253-299-5740
or report online at *www.ci.sumner.wa.us* with the Report a Problem option

For more information

NSF International: 1-877-8NSF-HELP, www.nsf.org

To get involved, attend City Council meetings: schedules and agendas are posted online at www.ci.sumner.wa.us. You can watch meetings on Pierce County TV, online or Comcast On Demand.

Public Water System ID # 851207

INCORPORATED 1891
SUMNER

Substance (unit of measure)	Year Sampled	MCL*	Range Detected	Violation	Typical Source
REGULATED SUBSTANCES					
Arsenic (ppb)	2012	0.01	<0.001 – 0.004	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Asbestos (mf/l)	2010	7	<0.129	No	Decay of asbestos cement water mains and erosion of natural deposits
Nitrates (ppm)	2012	10	<0.2 – 2.2	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	2010	80	0.7 – 6.7	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Copper (ppm)	2010	1.3	0.04 – 0.72	No	Corrosion of household plumbing and natural deposits
Lead (ppm)	2010	0.015	<0.001 –0.012	No	Corrosion of household plumbing including lead pipes, solder, faucets, valves and brass components; lead-based paint, contaminated dust
SECONDARY SUBSTANCES If above MCL, these may cause unpleasant effects—such as color, taste, odor—rather than adverse health effects					
Chloride (ppm)	2012	250	4-6	No	Runoff/leaching of natural deposits
Iron (ppm)	2012	0.3	<0.1-0.12	No	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppm)	2012	0.05	<0.01 –0.09	Exceeds**	Leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	2012	250	2-9	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

*Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology. Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: the level of acontaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. ** The well that exceeded the MCL is a seasonal well that was not on line that year, and we notified the Department of Health as required. If that well goes into use in the future, we will test again for manganese. If it exceeds the MCL again, we will take action as directed by the Department of Health.

ND: None detected PPB: parts per billion, one part substance per billion parts water

PPM: parts per million, one part substance per million parts water mf/l: million fibers per liter >10 microns

MORE INFORMATION

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses, parasites, and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can occur naturally or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, and farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from various sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production. They can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can occur naturally or result from oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Department of Health and EPA prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Washington Department of Agriculture regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) data is available at
http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/sw/assessment.htm